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DID NOT FIGHT AFTER ALL
Duelists Prevented from Firing by the
Distress Sign of a Secret Order.

A play recently written for a popular
comedian is founded on a tragic
occurrence in which Dr. J. M. Kellar,
formerly of Louisville, but now of
Hot Springs, Ark., was an actor.
The story was told to Mr. Gardner,
and the last-named gentleman saw
the dramatic possibilities. The inci-
dent occurred during the war, says
the Courier-Journal. Dr. Kellar was
an army surgeon, and was stationed
at Nashville. One night at the
Nashville Club two officers, a Major
and a Colonel had a misunderstanding
during a card game, and the lie
was passed. Immediately there was
a challenge. The Colonel, who was a
comparative stranger, called on Dr.
Kellar to act as his second, and gave
him letters of introduction, showing
that he was a gentleman and a brave
soldier. Preliminary arrangements
were made, and the two officers met
on the field of honor the
next morning at sunrise. The dis-
tance was measured off, the pri-
ciples were stationed, and "one, two"
had been counted, when the Colonel
threw up his hand and declared he
could not and would not fight. He
declined to give his reasons and was
branded as a coward. Dr. Kellar,
who knew the man must have a valid
excuse, stood by him, and requested
the others to say nothing of the affair
until proper explanations were made.
When the doctor reached his hotel he
found a note from the Colonel, which
only added to the mystery. He de-
clined to explain his apparent cow-
ardly action, but said that time would
show he had acted rightly. He left
Nashville and was afterward heard
of only from the seat of war, and in
all cases was spoken of as a brave,
fearless soldier. At last came the
excuse, stood by him, and with a let-
ter to Dr. Kellar that had been found
on the dead man's body. It cleared
the mystery. This letter stated that
just as the Colonel raised his weapon
to fire in the duel his antagonist, the
Major, had given the distress sign of
a secret organization of which both
were members, and the Colonel could
not and would not violate his oath
by disregarding the signal. Dr.
Kellar hunted down the cowardly
Major, made him acknowledge the
truth of the statement, and then had
him dismissed from the army in dis-
grace.

Pretty Romance of a Southern Girl.
Mrs. Thomas Smales died in Orange,
N. J., Saturday, from the effects of a
bullet which she carried in her skull
since early life. Her maiden name
was Miss Frances Layton, and she
was a daughter of wealthy Virginia
parents. Her beauty won for her
many admirers, one of them, Thomas
Smales, whom she loved above all
others. Among the rejected suitors
was a Southern lad, who, being re-
pulsed in his advances, shot her in
the head. All efforts to locate the
ball proved futile. Miss Layton
studied telegraphy and then took a
course in medicine in order to treat
herself. She finished her medical
studies in Berlin and went to Lon-
don, England, to practice. Her lover
was still true to her and although his
family had removed to Australia he
kept up correspondence with her.
He returned at length to the United
States and established himself in the
photographic business in Brunswick,
Ga. He prospered greatly and sent
for his intended. She crossed the
water and they were married in 1882.
She devoted herself to charitable
work and founded the first training
school for nurses in all the South,
also a hospital at Brunswick. The
bullet in her head, however, still
troubled her and about a year ago
she came north to visit a friend at
Orange, N. J., with the hope of gain-
ing her health. All efforts proved
futile and she gradually wasted
away.

L'Enfant Terrible.
A Congressman from the Western
slope tells several odd stories at the
expense of his wife, who is an inde-
fatigable caller. There are two chil-
dren in their family, and the lady,
having a couple of visitors from her
native state, decided to take one of
the children—aged 5—with her while
the visitors were put through the
round of cabinet calls. As they were
going into the house of the Secretary
of Agriculture, Mrs. Congressman
said to the ladies: "I'm going to
introduce you as farmers' wives. If
I don't I won't have anything to talk
about here."

The ladies assented, regarding the
deception in the light of a good joke.
The laugh, however, was on them,
for when Mrs. Congressman performed
the introduction with explanatory
additions, Master Five-Year-Old
opened his eyes in wide astonishment,
followed suit with his sweet little
mouth and lapped:

"My Aunt Carrie isn't a farmer."
The first call had been at the Vice
President's, where the infant regaled
himself with the good things of-
fered him. The next place hap-
pened to be a tea call, where he
wasn't asked to partake of pepper-
minis and the like. The small gen-
tleman endured the sit-down chat as
long as he could, but finally created
a miniature reign of terror by piping
out:

"Mamma, there ain't any wif-wif-
ments here!"—Kate Field's Wash-
ington.

Hard to Please.
Susy is a young lady of five years
and also of a very difficult disposition.
The other day a visitor at her father's
house found Susy weeping bitterly in
the corner.
"Why, what are you crying about?"
she was asked.
"Cause all my b-brothers and sis-
ters have a v-v-vacation, and I don't
have any! Boohoo!"
"And why don't you have any vaca-
tion?"
"Cause—I—I don't go to school
yet!"

This Call Meant a Raise.
Deacon Heavyweight—And so you
are going to leave us, parson?
Rev. Mr. Thankful—Yes, I have
had a call to another parish, where,
by the way, the salary is considerably
larger. I am sorry to leave my flock,
but I must obey the call.
Deacon Heavyweight (dryly)—Wal,
it may be what you call a call, but
it seems to me a good deal more like
a raise.